

**PATENT**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

<i>In re</i> Application of	)	
	)	
FOXEN, et al.	)	
	)	Serial Number: 10/767,403
Patent Number 7,141,131	)	
	)	Filed: 28 January 2004
Issued: 28 November 2006	)	
	)	Attorney Reference: 51-1120
For: METHOD OF MAKING ARTICLE OF	)	
FOOTWEAR HAVING A FLUID-FILLED	)	
BLADDER WITH A REINFORCING	)	
STRUCTURE	)	

**REQUEST FOR CERTIFICATE OF CORRECTION**

Commissioner for Patents  
Mail Stop: Certificate of Correction Branch  
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office  
Alexandria, VA 22313

Sir:

Pursuant to 35 U.S.C. § 254 and 37 C.F.R. § 1.322, this is a request for the issuance of a Certificate of Correction in the above-identified patent. Two copies of Form PTO-1050 are appended. The complete Certificate of Correction involves one page.

The mistake identified in the appended Form occurred through no fault of the Applicants, as clearly disclosed by the records of the application, which matured into this patent. Enclosed for your convenience are the relevant portions of an Amendment filed 5 June 2006, wherein independent claim 1 is amended to recite "exterior".

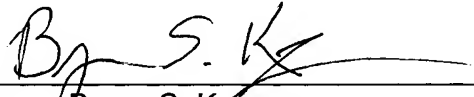
Issuance of the Certificate of Correction containing the noted correction is respectfully requested. Because this change is necessitated through no fault of the Applicants, no fee is believed to be associated with this request. Nonetheless, should

the Patent and Trademark Office determine that a fee is required, please charge our  
Deposit Account Number 502846 for payment.

Plumsea Law Group, LLC  
10411 Motor City Drive, Suite 320  
Bethesda, MD 20817  
Telephone: 301.365.9040

Dated: 28 February 2008


Respectfully Submitted,

  
By: Byron S. Kuzara  
Registration Number 51,255

### Certificate Of Transmission

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted by facsimile to the United States Patent and Trademark Office at telephone number (571) 273-8300 on June 5, 2006.

Respectfully submitted,

  
By: Byron S. Kuzara  
Registration Number 51,255  
Banner & Witcoff, Ltd.

### PATENT

### IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

<i>In re</i> Application of	)	
	)	Art Unit: 1733
Thomas FOXEN, et al.	)	
	)	Examiner: Musser, B.
Serial Number 10/767,403	)	
	)	Attorney Reference: 005127.00276
Filed: January 28, 2004	)	
	)	
For: ARTICLE OF FOOTWEAR HAVING A	)	
FLUID-FILLED BLADDER WITH A	)	
REINFORCING STRUCTURE	)	

### AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents  
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office  
Alexandria, VA 22313

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed March 22, 2006, please amend the above-captioned application as follows:

### AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend claims 1, 10, 20, 38, 50, and 57 as indicated below, wherein deleted material is shown by strikethrough (or double brackets) and added material is underlined. In addition, please cancel claims 34 and 46-49 and add claims 60-63. A complete listing of claims pending in the application following entry of this Amendment are presented as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A method of manufacturing a sole component for an article of footwear, the method comprising steps of:  
molding a fluid-filled bladder from a polymer material;  
recessing a reinforcing member into an exterior surface of the bladder; ~~and~~  
bonding the reinforcing member to the bladder; and  
placing at least a portion of the reinforcing member in tension by pressurizing the bladder.
2. (Original) The method recited in claim 1, wherein the step of molding includes selecting the polymer material to be two thermoplastic polymer sheets.
3. (Original) The method recited in claim 2, wherein the step of molding includes selecting the two thermoplastic polymer sheets to have different thicknesses.
4. (Original) The method recited in claim 3, wherein the step of molding includes stretching the two thermoplastic polymer sheets.
5. (Original) The method recited in claim 2, wherein the step of molding includes forming a first surface and a sidewall of the bladder from a first of the two thermoplastic polymer sheets.
6. (Original) The method recited in claim 5, wherein the step of molding includes forming a second surface of the bladder from a second of the two thermoplastic polymer sheets.

An example of the configuration for the reinforcing structure recited by independent claim 60 is illustrated in Figure 9F of the application at issue. This configuration is neither taught nor suggested by Shorten, Lyden, and Goodwin. Accordingly, the Applicants respectfully submit that independent claim 60 and claims 61-62 should be allowable.

#### **X. Discussion of Claim 63**

Independent claim 63 recites a method of manufacturing a sole component for an article of footwear. The method includes forming a reinforcing member with a first portion, a second portion spaced from the first portion, and a plurality of connecting portions extending between the first portion and the second portion. The reinforcing member is located within a mold. A fluid-filled bladder is molded from a polymer material. The bladder has a first surface, an opposite second surface, and a sidewall extending between the first surface and the second surface. The reinforcing member is recessed into an exterior surface of the bladder such that the first portion is adjacent the first surface, the second portion is adjacent the second surface, and the connecting portions extend along the sidewall. In addition, the reinforcing member is bonded to the bladder.

According to independent claim 63, the reinforcing member has a first portion, a second portion, and a plurality of connecting portions. In addition, the first portion is adjacent the first surface, the second portion is adjacent the second surface, and the connecting portions extend along the sidewall. This configuration is neither taught nor suggested by Shorten, Lyden, and Goodwin. Accordingly, the Applicants respectfully submit that independent claim 63 should be allowable.

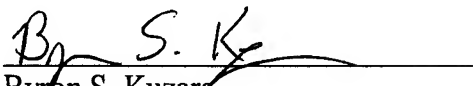
#### **XI. Conclusion**

In view of the foregoing, the Applicants respectfully submit that all claims are in a condition for allowance. The Applicants respectfully request, therefore, that the rejections be withdrawn and that this application now be allowed.

This Amendment is being filed by facsimile transmission on June 5, 2006. Should fees be deemed necessary for consideration of this Amendment, such fees are hereby requested and the Commissioner is authorized to charge deposit account number 19-0733 for payment. If anything further is desirable to place the application in even better form for allowance, the

Examiner is respectfully requested to telephone the undersigned representative at (503) 425-6800.

Respectfully submitted,

By:   
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Registration No. 51,255

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1001 G Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20001-4597  
Telephone: (202) 824-3000

Dated: June 5, 2006

## UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE CERTIFICATE OF CORRECTION

Page 1 of 1

PATENT NO. : 7,141,131

APPLICATION NO.: 10/767,403

ISSUE DATE : 28 November 2006

INVENTOR(S) : Thomas Foxen, et al.

It is certified that an error appears or errors appear in the above-identified patent and that said Letters Patent is hereby corrected as shown below:

Claim 1, line 4 - " interior " should be changed to -- exterior --

### MAILING ADDRESS OF SENDER (Please do not use customer number below):

Plumsea Law Group, LLC  
10411 Motor City Drive, Suite 320  
Bethesda, MD 20817

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.322, 1.323, and 1.324. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 1.0 hour to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: **Attention Certificate of Corrections Branch, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.**

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**UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE  
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